

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3404

To establish in the Department of the Interior an Under Secretary for Energy, Lands, and Minerals and a Bureau of Ocean Energy, an Ocean Energy Safety Service, and an Office of Natural Resources Revenue, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

---

## A BILL

To establish in the Department of the Interior an Under Secretary for Energy, Lands, and Minerals and a Bureau of Ocean Energy, an Ocean Energy Safety Service, and an Office of Natural Resources Revenue, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNDER SECRETARY FOR**  
4                       **ENERGY, LANDS, AND MINERALS AND ASSIST-**  
5                       **ANT SECRETARY OF OCEAN ENERGY AND**  
6                       **SAFETY.**

7       There shall be in the Department of the Interior—

1           (1) an Under Secretary for Energy, Lands, and  
2 Minerals, who shall—

3               (A) be appointed by the President, by and  
4 with the advise and consent of the Senate;

5               (B) report to the Secretary of the Interior;

6               (C) be paid at the rate payable for level III  
7 of the Executive Schedule; and

8               (D) be responsible for—

9                   (i) the safe and responsible develop-  
10 ment of our energy and mineral resources  
11 on Federal lands in appropriate accordance  
12 with United States energy demands; and

13                   (ii) ensuring multiple-use missions of  
14 the Department of the Interior that pro-  
15 mote the safe and sustained development  
16 of energy and minerals resources on public  
17 lands (as that term is defined in the Fed-  
18 eral Land Policy and Management Act of  
19 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.));

20           (2) an Assistant Secretary of Ocean Energy  
21 and Safety, who shall—

22               (A) be appointed by the President, by and  
23 with the advise and consent of the Senate;

24               (B) report to the Under Secretary for En-  
25 ergy, Lands, and Minerals;

1 (C) be paid at the rate payable for level IV  
2 of the Executive Schedule; and

3 (D) be responsible for ensuring safe and  
4 efficient development of energy and minerals on  
5 the Outer Continental Shelf of the United  
6 States; and

7 (3) an Assistant Secretary of Land and Min-  
8 erals Management, who shall—

9 (A) be appointed by the President, by and  
10 with the advise and consent of the Senate;

11 (B) report to the Under Secretary for En-  
12 ergy, Lands, and Minerals;

13 (C) be paid at the rate payable for level IV  
14 of the Executive Schedule; and

15 (D) be responsible for ensuring safe and  
16 efficient development of energy and minerals on  
17 public lands and other Federal onshore lands  
18 under the jurisdiction of the Department of the  
19 Interior, including implementation of the Min-  
20 eral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) and  
21 the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation  
22 Act (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.) and administra-  
23 tion of the Office of Surface Mining.

1 **SEC. 2. BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
3 Department of the Interior a Bureau of Ocean Energy (re-  
4 ferred to in this section as the “Bureau”), which shall—

5 (1) be headed by a Director of Ocean Energy  
6 (referred to in this section as the “Director”); and

7 (2) be administered under the direction of the  
8 Assistant Secretary of Ocean Energy and Safety.

9 (b) DIRECTOR.—

10 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Director shall be ap-  
11 pointed by the Secretary of the Interior.

12 (2) COMPENSATION.—The Director shall be  
13 compensated at the rate provided for Level V of the  
14 Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,  
15 United States Code.

16 (c) DUTIES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
18 rior shall carry out through the Bureau all func-  
19 tions, powers, and duties vested in the Secretary re-  
20 lating to the administration of a comprehensive pro-  
21 gram of offshore mineral and renewable energy re-  
22 sources management.

23 (2) SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES.—The Director  
24 shall promulgate and implement regulations—

25 (A) for the proper issuance of leases for  
26 the exploration, development, and production of

1 nonrenewable and renewable energy and min-  
2 eral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf;

3 (B) relating to resource identification, ac-  
4 cess, evaluation, and utilization;

5 (C) for development of leasing plans, lease  
6 sales, and issuance of leases for such resources;  
7 and

8 (D) regarding issuance of environmental  
9 impact statements related to leasing and post  
10 leasing activities including exploration, develop-  
11 ment, and production, and the use of third  
12 party contracting for necessary environmental  
13 analysis for the development of such resources.

14 (3) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not carry  
15 out through the Bureau any function, power, or duty  
16 that is—

17 (A) required by section 3 to be carried out  
18 through the Ocean Energy Safety Service; or

19 (B) required by section 4 to be carried out  
20 through the Office of Natural Resources Rev-  
21 enue.

22 (d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
23 AGENCIES.—Nothing in this section shall affect the au-  
24 thorities of the Bureau of Land Management under the  
25 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43

1 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) or of the Forest Service under the  
2 National Forest Management Act of 1976 (Public Law  
3 94–588).

4 **SEC. 3. OCEAN ENERGY SAFETY SERVICE.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
6 Department of the Interior an Ocean Energy Safety Serv-  
7 ice (referred to in this section as the “Service”), which  
8 shall—

9 (1) be headed by a Director of Energy Safety  
10 (referred to in this section as the “Director”); and

11 (2) be administered under the direction of the  
12 Assistant Secretary of Ocean Energy and Safety.

13 (b) DIRECTOR.—

14 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Director shall be ap-  
15 pointed by the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (2) COMPENSATION.—The Director shall be  
17 compensated at the rate provided for Level V of the  
18 Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,  
19 United States Code.

20 (c) DUTIES.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
22 rior shall carry out through the Service all functions,  
23 powers, and duties vested in the Secretary relating  
24 to the administration of safety and environmental  
25 enforcement activities related to offshore mineral

1 and renewable energy resources on the Outer Conti-  
2 nental Shelf pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf  
3 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) including the  
4 authority to develop, promulgate, and enforce regu-  
5 lations to ensure the safe and sound exploration, de-  
6 velopment, and production of mineral and renewable  
7 energy resources on the Outer Continental Shelf in  
8 a timely fashion.

9 (2) SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES.—The Director  
10 shall be responsible for all safety activities related to  
11 exploration and development of renewable and min-  
12 eral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf, in-  
13 cluding—

14 (A) exploration, development, production,  
15 and ongoing inspections of infrastructure;

16 (B) the suspending or prohibiting, on a  
17 temporary basis, any operation or activity, in-  
18 cluding production under leases held on the  
19 Outer Continental Shelf, in accordance with  
20 section 5(a)(1) of the Outer Continental Shelf  
21 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1334(a)(1));

22 (C) cancelling any lease, permit, or right-  
23 of-way on the Outer Continental Shelf, in ac-  
24 cordance with section 5(a)(2) of the Outer Con-

1           tinental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.  
2           1334(a)(2));

3           (D) compelling compliance with applicable  
4           Federal laws and regulations relating to worker  
5           safety and other matters;

6           (E) requiring comprehensive safety and en-  
7           vironmental management programs for persons  
8           engaged in activities connected with the explo-  
9           ration, development, and production of mineral  
10          or renewable energy resources;

11          (F) developing and implementing regula-  
12          tions for Federal employees to carry out any in-  
13          spection or investigation to ascertain compli-  
14          ance with applicable regulations, including  
15          health, safety, or environmental regulations;

16          (G) implementing the Offshore Technology  
17          Research and Risk Assessment Program under  
18          section 21 of the Outer Continental Shelf  
19          Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1347);

20          (H) summoning witnesses and directing  
21          the production of evidence;

22          (I) levying fines and penalties and disquali-  
23          fying operators;

24          (J) carrying out any safety, response, and  
25          removal preparedness functions; and



1 (K) the processing of permits, exploration  
2 plans, development plans.

3 (d) EMPLOYEES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure  
5 that the inspection force of the Bureau consists of  
6 qualified, trained employees who meet qualification  
7 requirements and adhere to the highest professional  
8 and ethical standards.

9 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The qualification re-  
10 quirements referred to in paragraph (1)—

11 (A) shall be determined by the Secretary,  
12 subject to subparagraph (B); and

13 (B) shall include—

14 (i) three years of practical experience  
15 in oil and gas exploration, development, or  
16 production; or

17 (ii) a degree in an appropriate field of  
18 engineering from an accredited institution  
19 of higher learning.

20 (3) ASSIGNMENT.—In assigning oil and gas in-  
21 spectors to the inspection and investigation of indi-  
22 vidual operations, the Secretary shall give due con-  
23 sideration to the extent possible to their previous ex-  
24 perience in the particular type of oil and gas oper-  
25 ation in which such inspections are to be made.

1           (4) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Director shall  
2       require that an individual to be hired as an inspec-  
3       tion officer undergo an employment investigation  
4       (including a criminal history record check).

5           (5) LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS.—Individuals  
6       hired as inspectors must be able to read, speak, and  
7       write English well enough to—

8                 (A) carry out written and oral instructions  
9       regarding the proper performance of inspection  
10      duties; and

11                (B) write inspection reports and state-  
12      ments and log entries in the English language.

13           (6) VETERANS PREFERENCE.—The Director  
14      shall provide a preference for the hiring of an indi-  
15      vidual as a inspection officer if the individual is a  
16      member or former member of the armed forces and  
17      is entitled, under statute, to retired, retirement, or  
18      retainer pay on account of service as a member of  
19      the armed forces.

20           (7) ANNUAL PROFICIENCY REVIEW.—

21                 (A) ANNUAL PROFICIENCY REVIEW.—The  
22      Director shall provide that an annual evaluation  
23      of each individual assigned inspection duties is  
24      conducted and documented.

1 (B) CONTINUATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—An  
2 individual employed as an inspector may not  
3 continue to be employed in that capacity unless  
4 the evaluation demonstrates that the indi-  
5 vidual—

6 (i) continues to meet all qualifications  
7 and standards;

8 (ii) has a satisfactory record of per-  
9 formance and attention to duty based on  
10 the standards and requirements in the in-  
11 spection program; and

12 (iii) demonstrates the current knowl-  
13 edge and skills necessary to courteously,  
14 vigilantly, and effectively perform Inspec-  
15 tion functions.

16 (8) LIMITATION ON RIGHT TO STRIKE.—Any  
17 individual that conducts permitting or inspections  
18 under this section may not participate in a strike, or  
19 assert the right to strike.

20 (9) PERSONNEL AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding  
21 any other provision of law, the Director may employ,  
22 appoint, discipline and terminate for cause, and fix  
23 the compensation, terms, and conditions of employ-  
24 ment of Federal service for individuals as the em-  
25 ployees of the Service in order to restore and main-

1       tain the trust of the people of the United States in  
2       the accountability of the management of our Na-  
3       tion's energy safety program.

4               (10) TRAINING ACADEMY.—

5               (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall es-  
6       tablish and maintain a National Offshore En-  
7       ergy Health and Safety Academy (referred to in  
8       this paragraph as the “Academy”) as an agency  
9       of the Ocean Energy Safety Service.

10              (B) FUNCTIONS OF ACADEMY.—The Sec-  
11       retary, through the Academy, shall be respon-  
12       sible for—

13              (i) the initial and continued training  
14       of both newly hired and experienced off-  
15       shore oil and gas inspectors in all aspects  
16       of health, safety, environmental, and oper-  
17       ational inspections;

18              (ii) the training of technical support  
19       personnel of the Bureau;

20              (iii) any other training programs for  
21       offshore oil and gas inspectors, Bureau  
22       personnel, Department personnel, or other  
23       persons as the Secretary shall designate;  
24       and

1 (iv) certification of the successful  
2 completion of training programs for newly  
3 hired and experienced offshore oil and gas  
4 inspectors.

5 (C) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

6 (i) IN GENERAL.—In performing func-  
7 tions under this paragraph, and subject to  
8 clause (ii), the Secretary may enter into  
9 cooperative educational and training agree-  
10 ments with educational institutions, related  
11 Federal academies, other Federal agencies,  
12 State governments, safety training firms,  
13 and oil and gas operators and related in-  
14 dustries.

15 (ii) TRAINING REQUIREMENT.—Such  
16 training shall be conducted by the Acad-  
17 emy in accordance with curriculum needs  
18 and assignment of instructional personnel  
19 established by the Secretary.

20 (11) USE OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.—In  
21 performing functions under this subsection, the Sec-  
22 retary shall use, to the extent practicable, the facili-  
23 ties and personnel of the Department of the Interior.  
24 The Secretary may appoint or assign to the Acad-  
25 emy such officers and employees as the Secretary

1 considers necessary for the performance of the du-  
2 ties and functions of the Academy.

3 (12) ADDITIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
5 work with appropriate educational institutions,  
6 operators, and representatives of oil and gas  
7 workers to develop and maintain adequate pro-  
8 grams with educational institutions and oil and  
9 gas operators that are designed—

10 (i) to enable persons to qualify for po-  
11 sitions in the administration of this Act;  
12 and

13 (ii) to provide for the continuing edu-  
14 cation of inspectors or other appropriate  
15 Department of the Interior personnel.

16 (B) FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-  
17 ANCE.—The Secretary may provide financial  
18 and technical assistance to educational institu-  
19 tions in carrying out this paragraph.

20 (e) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not carry out  
21 through the Service any function, power, or duty that is—

22 (1) required by section 2 to be carried out  
23 through Bureau of Ocean Energy; or

24 (2) required by section 4 to be carried out  
25 through the Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

1 **SEC. 4. OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
3 Department of the Interior an Office of Natural Resources  
4 Revenue (referred to in this section as the “Office”) to  
5 be headed by a Director of Natural Resources Revenue  
6 (referred to in this section as the “Director”).

7 (b) APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall be ap-  
9 pointed by the Secretary of the Interior.

10 (2) COMPENSATION.—The Director shall be  
11 compensated at the rate provided for Level V of the  
12 Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,  
13 United States Code.

14 (c) DUTIES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
16 rior shall carry out, through the Office, all functions,  
17 powers, and duties vested in the Secretary and relat-  
18 ing to the administration of offshore royalty and rev-  
19 enue management functions.

20 (2) SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary  
21 shall carry out, through the Office, all functions,  
22 powers, and duties previously assigned to the Min-  
23 erals Management Service (including the authority  
24 to develop, promulgate, and enforce regulations) re-  
25 garding offshore royalty and revenue collection; roy-  
26 alty and revenue distribution; auditing and compli-

1       ance; investigation and enforcement of royalty and  
2       revenue regulations; and asset management for on-  
3       shore and offshore activities.

4       (d) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not carry out  
5 through the Office any function, power, or duty that is—

6           (1) required by section 2 to be carried out  
7 through Bureau of Ocean Energy; or

8           (2) required by section 3 to be carried out  
9 through the Ocean Energy Safety Service.

10 **SEC. 5. ETHICS AND DRUG TESTING.**

11       (a) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of the Interior  
12 shall certify annually that all Department of the Interior  
13 officers and employees having regular, direct contact with  
14 lessees, contractors, concessionaires, and other businesses  
15 interested before the Government as a function of their  
16 official duties, or conducting investigations, issuing per-  
17 mits, or responsible for oversight of energy programs, are  
18 in full compliance with all Federal employee ethics laws  
19 and regulations under the Ethics in Government Act of  
20 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) and part 2635 of title 5, Code of  
21 Federal Regulations, and all guidance issued under sub-  
22 section (c).

23       (b) DRUG TESTING.—The Secretary shall conduct a  
24 random drug testing program of all Department of the  
25 Interior personnel referred to in subsection (a).



1 (c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the  
2 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue  
3 supplementary ethics and drug testing guidance for the  
4 employees for which certification is required under sub-  
5 section (a). The Secretary shall update the supplementary  
6 ethics guidance not less than once every 3 years there-  
7 after.

8 **SEC. 6. ABOLISHMENT OF MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERV-**  
9 **ICE.**

10 (a) ABOLISHMENT.—The Minerals Management  
11 Service is abolished.

12 (b) COMPLETED ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Completed administrative  
14 actions of the Minerals Management Service shall  
15 not be affected by the enactment of this Act, but  
16 shall continue in effect according to their terms until  
17 amended, modified, superseded, terminated, set  
18 aside, or revoked in accordance with law by an offi-  
19 cer of the United States or a court of competent ju-  
20 risdiction, or by operation of law.

21 (2) COMPLETED ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION DE-  
22 FINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term  
23 “completed administrative action” includes orders,  
24 determinations, memoranda of understanding,  
25 memoranda of agreements, rules, regulations, per-

1       sonnel actions, permits, agreements, grants, con-  
2       tracts, certificates, licenses, registrations, and privi-  
3       leges.

4       (c) PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Subject to the author-  
5       ity of the Secretary of the Interior and the officers of the  
6       Department of the Interior under this Act—

7               (1) pending proceedings in the Minerals Man-  
8       agement Service, including notices of proposed rule-  
9       making, and applications for licenses, permits, cer-  
10      tificates, grants, and financial assistance, shall con-  
11      tinue, notwithstanding the enactment of this Act or  
12      the vesting of functions of the Service in another  
13      agency, unless discontinued or modified under the  
14      same terms and conditions and to the same extent  
15      that such discontinuance or modification could have  
16      occurred if this Act had not been enacted; and

17              (2) orders issued in such proceedings, and ap-  
18      peals therefrom, and payments made pursuant to  
19      such orders, shall issue in the same manner and on  
20      the same terms as if this Act had not been enacted,  
21      and any such orders shall continue in effect until  
22      amended, modified, superseded, terminated, set  
23      aside, or revoked by an officer of the United States  
24      or a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation  
25      of law.

1 (d) PENDING CIVIL ACTIONS.—Subject to the au-  
 2 thority of the Secretary of the Interior or any officer of  
 3 the Department of the Interior under this Act, pending  
 4 civil actions shall continue notwithstanding the enactment  
 5 of this Act, and in such civil actions, proceedings shall be  
 6 had, appeals taken, and judgments rendered and enforced  
 7 in the same manner and with the same effect as if such  
 8 enactment had not occurred.

9 (e) REFERENCES.—References relating to the Min-  
 10 erals Management Service in statutes, Executive orders,  
 11 rules, regulations, directives, or delegations of authority  
 12 that precede the effective date of this Act are deemed to  
 13 refer, as appropriate, to the Department, to its officers,  
 14 employees, or agents, or to its corresponding organiza-  
 15 tional units or functions. Statutory reporting requirements  
 16 that applied in relation to the Minerals Management Serv-  
 17 ice immediately before the effective date of this Act shall  
 18 continue to apply.

19 **SEC. 7. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO EXECUTIVE**  
 20 **SCHEDULE PAY RATES.**

21 (a) UNDER SECRETARY FOR ENERGY, LANDS, AND  
 22 MINERALS.—Section 5314 of title 5, United States Code,  
 23 is amended by inserting after the item relating to “Under  
 24 Secretaries of the Treasury (3)” the following:

1           “Under Secretary for Energy, Lands, and Min-  
2           erals, Department of the Interior.”.

3           (b) ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.—Section 5315 of title  
4   5, United States Code, is amended by striking “Assistant  
5   Secretaries, Department of the Interior (6)” and inserting  
6   the following:

7           “Assistant Secretaries, Department of the Inte-  
8           rior (7).”.

9           (c) DIRECTORS.—Section 5316 of title 5, United  
10   States Code, is amended by striking “Director, Bureau of  
11   Mines, Department of the Interior.” and inserting the fol-  
12   lowing new items:

13           “Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy, Depart-  
14           ment of the Interior.

15           “Director, Ocean Energy Safety Service, De-  
16           partment of the Interior.

17           “Director, Office of Natural Resources Rev-  
18           enue, Department of the Interior.”.

19   **SEC. 8. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF ENERGY SAFETY AD-**  
20           **VISORY BOARD.**

21           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior  
22   shall establish, under the Federal Advisory Committee  
23   Act, an Outer Continental Shelf Energy Safety Advisory  
24   Board (referred to in this section as the “Board”)—

1           (1) to provide the Secretary and the Directors  
2           established by this Act with independent scientific  
3           and technical advice on safe, responsible, and timely  
4           mineral and renewable energy exploration, develop-  
5           ment, and production activities; and

6           (2) to review operations of the National Off-  
7           shore Energy Health and Safety Academy estab-  
8           lished under section 3(d), including submitting to  
9           the Secretary recommendations of curriculum to en-  
10          sure training scientific and technical advancements.

11         (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

12           (1) SIZE.—The Board shall consist of not more  
13          than 11 members, who—

14                 (A) shall be appointed by the Secretary  
15                 based on their expertise in oil and gas drilling,  
16                 well design, operations, well containment and  
17                 oil spill response; and

18                 (B) must have significant scientific, engi-  
19                 neering, management, and other credentials and  
20                 a history of working in the field related to safe  
21                 energy exploration, development, and produc-  
22                 tion activities.

23           (2) CONSULTATION AND NOMINATIONS.—The  
24          Secretary shall consult with the National Academy  
25          of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineer-

1       ing to identify potential candidates for the Board  
2       and shall take nominations from the public.

3           (3) TERM.—The Secretary shall appoint Board  
4       members to staggered terms of not more than 4  
5       years, and shall not appoint a member for more  
6       than 2 consecutive terms.

7           (4) BALANCE.—In appointing members to the  
8       Board, the Secretary shall ensure a balanced rep-  
9       resentation of industry and research interests.

10       (c) CHAIR.—The Secretary shall appoint the Chair  
11      for the Board from among its members.

12       (d) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet not less than  
13      3 times per year and shall host, at least once per year,  
14      a public forum to review and assess the overall energy  
15      safety performance of Outer Continental Shelf mineral  
16      and renewable energy resource activities.

17       (e) OFFSHORE DRILLING SAFETY ASSESSMENTS  
18      AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—As part of its duties under  
19      this section, the Board shall, by not later than 180 days  
20      after the date of enactment of this section and every 5  
21      years thereafter, submit to the Secretary a report that—

22           (1) assesses offshore oil and gas well control  
23      technologies, practices, voluntary standards, and  
24      regulations in the United States and elsewhere; and

1           (2) as appropriate, recommends modifications  
2       to the regulations issued under this Act to ensure  
3       adequate protection of safety and the environment,  
4       including recommendations on how to reduce regula-  
5       tions and administrative actions that are duplicative  
6       or unnecessary.

7       (f) REPORTS.—Reports of the Board shall be sub-  
8       mitted by the Board to the Committee on Natural Re-  
9       sources of the House or Representatives and the Com-  
10      mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate  
11      and made available to the public in electronically acces-  
12      sible form.

13      (g) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the Board,  
14      other than full-time employees of the Federal Government,  
15      while attending meeting of the Board or while otherwise  
16      serving at the request of the Secretary or the Director  
17      while serving away from their homes or regular places of  
18      business, may be allowed travel expenses, including per  
19      diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703  
20      of title 5, United States Code, for individuals in the Gov-  
21      ernment serving without pay.

○